

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 03845 201502Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07
/071 W

-----012722 201907Z /43

R 201434Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3568
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 3845

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, EAID, SY
SUBJECT: RESUMPTION OF SAUDI AID TO SYRIA

1. IN RECENT DAYS, THERE HAVE BEEN CONCRETE REPORTS THAT SAUDI AID, ON A LIMITED SCALE, HAS BEEN RESUMED TO SYRIA. A KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIAL IN THE CENTRAL BANK TOLD AN AID OFFICER THAT TWO AID INCREMENTS OF DOLS 100 MILLION PROJECT AID AND DOLS 170 MILLION BUDGET SUPPORT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM SAUDI ARABIA IN 1977, THE LATTER IN THE PAST FEW DAYS. THIS REPRESENTS FIRST SUBSTANTIAL PAYMENT FROM SAUDI ARABIA THIS YEAR. IT INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT CENTRAL BANK SOURCE ATTRIBUTED SAUDI PAYMENT TO U.S. INTERCESSION WITH PRINCE FAHD DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

2. THIS REPORT IS FIRST SOLID CORROBORATION WE HAVE OF OTHER REPORTS THAT SAUDIS HAVE RESUMED AID. GENERAL DRIFT OF STORIES IN DAMASCUS IS THAT SAUDIS HELD UP AID UNTIL THEY COULD EXAMINE SYRIA'S BOOKS. GIVEN PARLOUS CONDITION OF GOVERNMENTAL BOOKKEEPING HERE IN SYRIA, THIS WOULD SEEM TO BE REASONABLE ATTITUDE ON PART ANY AID DONOR. SYRIANS SOMEWHAT
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PAGE 02 DAMASC 03845 201502Z

MIFFED, HOWEVER, THAT SAUDIS -- WHOSE OWN REPUTATION IN KEEPING BOOKS IS SOMEWHAT TATTERED -- WOULD BE MAKING SUCH DEMANDS. THIS IS A CROSS ALL AID DONORS MUST BEAR.
PELLETREAU

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PAGE 03 DAMASC 03845 201502Z

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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TAGS: EFIN, EAID, SY
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